(b) if so, what is the total number of incidents of subsidence and accidents that occurred during the last three years and the details thereof; and

(c) what action has been taken by ECL and DGMS to prevent reocurrence of such incidents and accidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Instances of subsidence have been reported from time to time in Raniganj Coalfield of Eastern Coalfields Limited over the last several years. The subsidence is taking place due to unscientific exploitation of coal during the pre-nationalisation days. Figures of incidence of subsidence as well as that of fatalities due to accidents in mines during the last three years in E.C.L. are given below:—

Year	No. of Subsidence	No. of Fatalities
1988	3	36
1989	12	41
1990	3	32

The details of subsidence during the last three years in Raniganj Coalfields of ECL are indicated in Annexure-I. [*See* Appendix CLX, Annexure No. 341].

(c) With a view to checking the growth of habitation over subsidence prone areas of Raniganj, the Office of Director General of Mines Safety had, in 1950, declared 40 areas unsafe for human habitation. The Government of West Bengal have also passed legislation prohibiting construction of buildings over such unsafe areas. The management of Eastern Coalfields Limited have taken various steps to check the subsidence which include:—

(i) Mining operations being carried out in conformity with the rules and regulations of DGMS;

(ii) Extraction below built-up area is done only in conjunction with showing;

(iii) Restricted working/extraction is carried out in case of working under shallow cover;

(iv) In order to stabilise such unsafe areas in Raniganj Coalfield, ECL has taken up a project based on a new technology of hydropneumatic stoving. Efforts are now in progress to stabilise an area of 8.72 hectares in Raniganj township.

The management of ECL is taking remedial measures in accordance with the norms laid down by DGMS to prevent the occurrence of accidents. All the accidents are inquired into by the Internal Safety Organisation of the company. DGMS also conduct inquiry into the accidents which is a statutory requirement. Appropriate action is being taken on the basis of the findings of the inquiries to check the recurrence of the accidents.

Import of Crude Oil

*186. SHRI R. T. GOPALAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of crude oil and petroleum products imported during 1990-91;

(b) the average cost per metric tonne of crude oil imported during 1990-91;

(c) the estimated quantity likely to be imported during 1991-92;

(d) the average estimated cost per tonne thereof; and

(c) the quantity out of the above to be imported under existing long term contracts and the quantity likely to be purchased from international market as well as the quantity on Government to Government basis, with the names of the countries concerned?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Crude oil 20.699 MMT*
Petroleum products 9.660 MMT*

*Provisional.

(b) Approximately Rs. 2956 (FOB).

(c) and (d) At present Government have approved the import of 19.6 MMT crude oil and 9.626 MMT of petroleum products during 1991-92. The average cost would depend on the prices in the international market.

There are no Government to Government contracts. At present, IOC has produced or firmed up 12.427 MMT crude oil under term contracts for supply during 1991-92. Import by spot purchases are decided from time to time on the basis of requirement.

Ongoing Power projects in the country

*137. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of the ongoing projects in the country;

(b) what steps are being taken for their expeditious completion; and

(c) what is the cost and time over run in each case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (c) Details of sanctioned ongoing power projects in the country and their original and latest estimated cost and commissioning schedules are given in the statement [*See* Appendix CLX, Annexure No. 35].

(b) The implementation of the power projects is closely monitored by the Department of Powers and the Central Electricity Authority (CEA). Timely assistance is rendered, where ever necessary, to the project authorities to remove any bottlenecks in supply of equipment, material etc. For this purpose, joint coordination meetings are held by the CEA with the project authorities, manufacturers of equipment and contractors.

All weather air link

*188. SHRI DINESHBHAI TRIVEDI:

SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal under their consideration to have all weather air link with border areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.